

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000789

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ⁷: B65G 1/08, 13/11, 17/24, 17/30, 39/02, 39/04, 47/02, 47/57, 47/88

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

USPTO: Live roller

DWPI: live roller; IPC B65G/- & Keywords: roller, rail, support, frame, assembly, slot, groove, axle, spindle and similar terms

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 2000/078648 A1 (THE BUSCHMAN COMPANY) 28 December 2000 Figure 1	1-8, 12
X	US 3915275 A (SPECHT) 28 October 1975 Whole document	1-8, 12
X	US 4219114 A (KOVACS) 26 August 1980 Whole document	1-8, 12

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C ☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
13 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

17 SEP 2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

See supplement sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.: 1-16

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of Boxes I to VIII is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box No: III

The international application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention because it does not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. In coming to this conclusion the International Searching Authority has found that there are different inventions as follows:

1. Claims 1-16, 17-21 are directed to a roller assembly including a roller support including two wall portions and each wall portion including slot for receiving a respective end of the roller axle. It is considered that the slot for receiving the axles comprises a first "special technical feature".
2. Claims 22-26 are directed to a motion control device which is pivot ably connected to a roller support of a roller assembly and including at least one contact surface for impeding the motion of an object travelling over the rollers. It is considered that the fore-mentioned feature comprises a second special technical feature.

The feature common to all of the claims is a roller assembly with rollers. However this common feature is generic in the art. Consequently the common feature does not constitute "a special technical feature" within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence, since it makes no contribution over the prior art. Since there exists no other common feature which can be considered as a special technical feature within the meaning of PCT Rule 13.2, second sentence, no technical relationship within the meaning of PCT Rule 13 between the different inventions can be seen. Consequently the claims do not satisfy the requirement of unity of invention a posteriori.

3. With respect of claims 1-16 and 17-21, it is also considered these two groups of inventions do not relate to one invention or to a group of inventions so linked as to form a single general inventive concept. The feature common to claims 1 and 17 are those defined in claim 1 and these features are disclosed in the following documents:
 - A. WO 2000/078648
 - B. US 3915275

Therefore these claims lack unity a posteriori. Note that claim 17 introduces the features of independent claim 22 which is the subject of the second group of inventions.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/000789

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member			
WO	0078648	AU	57494/00		
US	3915275	AT	509474	BE	819234
		CH	581567	DE	2343104
		ES	429539	FR	2242310
		JP	50124383	NL	7408031
				CA	1005381
				DK	451274
				GB	1462310
				SE	7410738
US	4219114	NONE			
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.					
END OF ANNEX					